

DUTCH ENERGY SEEN IN COMMERCE MOVE

Formation of Oversea Trust
Overcomes Effects of Bel-
ligerent Blockades.

ITS OPERATIONS INSPIRE
CONFIDENCE ON NATIONS

Economic Life of Holland Vastly
Aided by Efforts of Organization
at Slight Cost.

Correspondence of the Associated Press.
THE HAGUE, Holland, April 15.—A fine example of Dutch energy and determination, combined with readiness to meet new conditions, has been brought to the front in Holland since the outbreak of the war in the person of Cornelis J. K. van Aalst, the organizer of the Netherlands Oversea Trust. This is not a trading concern, but a national institution founded to meet and overcome difficulties placed in the way of Dutch commerce by the declaration of blockades by the central European allies on the one side and the powers of the triple entente on the other.

It was found necessary in the first days of the war crisis to form a central institution to supervise Dutch commerce in order to prevent Holland falling unwittingly into difficulties which might involve her in the world conflict, and Mr. van Aalst, who is president of one of the leading banks of the Netherlands, consented to undertake the task of organization.

The efforts of Great Britain and France to prevent goods which they had declared contraband from getting to their foes through neutral channels had to be met.

Ships Among First Suspected.

Dutch ships were among the first suspected of carrying on this trade, and they were consequently almost always held up and searched for absolute or conditional contraband, which, when found among their cargoes, was confiscated. The delay and loss were often very serious for the Dutch merchants. This matter was taken in hand by Mr. van Aalst and his colleagues of the "N. O. T." as the institution soon became known. Its members were drawn from the leading commercial men, importers, shippers and bankers and it was able in a short time to win the respect and confidence of the foreign governments, which soon found they were dealing with a trustworthy body and permitted the much-needed raw materials and foodstuffs for Holland itself to be taken through their patrolling lines of war vessels and brought to the Netherlands. The sole condition was that Dutch merchants were obliged to carry papers showing that the cargoes were consigned to the Netherlands Oversea Trust, which stood as guarantor for the good name and good faith of the merchants who eventually were to receive them.

Methods Very Simple.

Success was complete, and Dutch commerce and industry, which otherwise would have been almost entirely suspended, were kept going practically without interruption, so that after nine months of war Holland is able to say that, taken in its broad lines, its economic life has been only to a very slight degree affected by the hostilities proceeding on all the frontiers of the country. The operative methods of the Netherlands Oversea Trust are very simple. Every would-be importer or exporter must first apply to the organization, which inquires into the genuineness of the business, and, besides demanding a bank guarantee, requires proof that the goods are not being exported for the account of any person or firm connected with the nation at war. On the other side, not being imported to Holland in order to be sent into any other country, but purely for consumption in Holland. The amount of the bank guarantee, in case of the trader not keeping his word, is confiscated. A body of controllers looks closely into the eventual destination of the goods concerned, and any breach of trust is quickly known.

Trust Makes No Profit.

The cost of the work of the Netherlands Oversea Trust, which has done such notable service to Holland during the crisis, is only one-eighth of 1 per cent of the value of the goods handled. The trust makes no profit, any surplus left from the percentage charged going to the national relief fund. It is not only in connection with the prevention of contraband going into Germany and Austria that the trust is concerned. Germany also has recognized the utility of working through it, and now permits several much-needed articles to be exported to Holland, after at first declining to do so owing to fears that they might get into the hands of her enemies. Under the guaranty of the overseas trust the chief of these articles—sugar beet seed—is now being sent to Holland, and a great industry has thus been saved from temporary destruction.

How He Broke the News.

From the Boston Transcript.
"A relative of mine that I never saw before came to the house last night. 'Never saw before, eh? What's his name?' 'He hasn't got any yet, but we intend to christen him William.'"

Couldn't Expect Him To.

From the Boston Transcript.
"Lads—I'm afraid you don't like work, my good man. 'Trump—How kin I, mum? Work's wot killed my pore wife.'"

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LITTLE PAL—He Hears From Tom.



REAL VIEWS IN REPLY TO NOTES IN HAMPERS

Petrograd Woman Adopts Plan of
Sounding Sentiment of Soldiers at Front.

Correspondence of the Associated Press.
PETROGRAD, April 12.—More than 300 letters from Russian soldiers have reached a prominent Petrograd woman in response to a note which she inclosed in a large number of hampers of food which she sent to the front a few weeks ago. She had expressed a desire to get some letters from the front which would show what the ordinary Russian soldier really thought, instead of the stereotyped letters of thanks with which the soldiers ordinarily acknowledge gifts from persons of higher social station. Accordingly, she signed the notes which she inclosed with the names of her three maid servants, making it appear as if these young women had slipped the notes into the hampers surreptitiously. The receivers were asked to reply to these maid servants and to tell them how they were faring in the war.

Sends Pen Picture of Self.

A Cossack sent the following pen-picture of himself:
"I want to tell you what a Cossack looks like. He is not handsome, no, indeed! Yet he looks like an eagle, and whether the foe he meets be German or Austrian, he will beat him like an eagle. A Cossack is small but brave. Small is the grain of gold, yet of great value. So is the Cossack, in his gray coat and waist held tightly in a leather belt. However hot the firing, he will not drop his gun, but will ride his brave horse and arrive in time, wherever he may be sent.
"A scout tells of a reconnaissance from which he has just returned, 'The moon shining as clear as if it were daylight and the Germans firing at us constantly and doing us much harm.' He adds:
"Let my letter fly from the German land to the metropolitan town. I bow to you, sister Katinka. I am a hero from the River Dni, fighting for our religion and our country. You and your friends listen to the holy bells calling the Christians to service. We hear the roar of the cannon and the rattle of the German machine guns."

Wants Pair of Trousers.

From Orenburg comes a prettily worded appeal for a pair of trousers:
"My Dear Friend Katinka: I hasten to inform you that I am in good health and all is flourishing with me. I am well, and my horse is well, and for you wish the same good health, and accept my deep devotion, and let me know how you. Against my will, tears coursed down my cheeks as I read your letter. 'I have a humble request to make of you. I do not ask for tobacco, for I do not smoke. But, if such be your kindness, pray send me an old pair of riding trousers, of which I am very much in need. If you have a divine spark of love for the soldier who is defending his country, do not refuse what I ask.'"

One of the letters in poetry is roughly translated as follows:

Greeting from all the hero soldiers! We shall end the war in glory! Aid through the streets of Berlin! Shall march the Russian regiments With the saint at their head!

The "Giant" is a favorite soldier's name for the Grand Duke Nicholas.

Notified of Committee Assignment.

D. W. Gall, who was elected representative of the Macabees of the District of Columbia to the supreme council, was notified of the assignment of the order which meets in San Francisco shortly, has been notified of his appointment as a member of the committee on mileage and per diem of that body. It is said to be the first time in the history of the organization that the District of Columbia has been thus recognized.

Unnecessary Effort.

From Life.
His wife—This paper says an army of 100,000 men has wrecked a railroad.

He—That's a figure. What a waste of energy! A board of five directors could have done it just as thoroughly.

FARM LABOR IS SHORT IN ENGLISH COMMUNITIES

Women Are Taking Place of Men in
Lighter Work—Colleges
Teaching Them.

Correspondence of the Associated Press.
LONDON, April 20.—The shortage in farm labor in England is causing increasing unrest in agricultural circles. It is generally recognized, moreover, that the scarcity of labor, emphasized as it has been by the brisk recruiting in rural districts, will remain a vexed problem after the war.

Teaching the Women.

Some of the agricultural colleges have organized short courses of instruction for women who are willing to enter farm work. A college in Shropshire which has just completed its first course of this nature had more applicants than it could accommodate. The course of instruction includes milking, dairy work, live stock, poultry, preparation of the land, use of tools, planting and cultivation. The course requires eight hours' work daily for fourteen days.

To the Scrap Heap at Forty?

From the Kansas City Times.
"To the Star (Kansas City): I am forty years old and feel that I am just getting started in life. But all this stuff about 'old age' getting Johnson at thirty-eight, and the Antietam explorers regarding men of thirty-five as decrepit, sort of gets me. Am I on the way to the scrap heap?"

You are, you are! You wouldn't have the slightest show on earth to lick Jess Willard, or to make the record in the 100-yard dash or to win a tennis championship (though Lardner was champion after forty), or to do any spectacular pole vaulting, or to get a job on the packers or to do any one of a hundred things you like to do when you were twenty? You might as well admit it and make up your mind to it. You are on the way to the age of the lean and shrunken pantaloon.

The only thing left you is to make the best of it. There are a few trifling opportunities still open. You have been known even above the advanced age of forty to do a little something in medicine, the law, linguistics and suchlike.

The framers of the Constitution thought enough of the aged and infirm to put persons over thirty-five in the presidential office. This may have been due to the fact that most of the members of the convention were well on in years and were jealous of youth.

At the same time it has to be admitted that a modification of fame is still possible even at the age when one can no longer hope to become champion pugilist of the world and wear an American flag about one's waist.

Harrison was hardly heard of before he was forty, and he began his great work at that age. The late John D. Rockefeller was hardly heard of before he was forty, and he began his great work at that age. The late John D. Rockefeller was hardly heard of before he was forty, and he began his great work at that age.

Woodrow Wilson became president of Princeton at forty-six. Sir William Osler himself would never have been heard of if he had died at forty, while Gladstone did not introduce the first home rule bill until he had reached something like maturity at seventy-seven.

If you can reconcile yourself to letting the youngsters win the athletic championships, starve at the north pole and get killed in the trenches, you may still find the opportunity to live a fairly useful and happy life for thirty or forty years longer.

Cheap Stuff.

From the Boston Transcript.
Nell—You say you saw her wedding gifts. How was her silver marked?

Bel—From the looks of it I'd say it was marked down.

Rear-End Collision on B. & O.

Passenger train No. 3 on the Metropolitan branch of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad collided with the rear car of a freight train near the tower at Rhode Island avenue northeast about 12:30 o'clock this morning. Two cars were slightly damaged, but nobody was hurt.

HARBOR OF HAMBURG IS DESOLATE CONTRAST

One of the Busiest Seaports in All
the World Now Pitiful Picture
of War's Work.

Correspondence of the Associated Press.

AMSTERDAM, April 15.—A vivid picture of Hamburg and its one harbor in war times is given by the Tagliche Rundschau.

In normal times it is one of the busiest seaports in the world, "the commerce-laden shipping thronging the docks and the broad face of the Elbe, funnels smoking, sirens shrieking, machinery creaking, life swarming around the wharves and storage houses."

Now, however, says the writer, the harbor of Hamburg is desolate. "The gulls search in vain for their food, the thickest fog calls forth no warning signals, the cold spring sunshine falls on no smoke or rushing steam, the gates of the great bonded stores are closed and grass grows in the flagged courts."

No Sailors to Be Seen.

"In the pre-war days all roads led to the harbor. Now these roads are desolate, and only a wanderer here and there denotes that some isolated individual still takes an interest in the vast area of the harbor. Wherever one looks the hulls of huge vessels and their masts and funnels are seen, thick steel cables fastening them to anchors in the Elbe mud or to the shore. Not a flag or pennant flutters from their masts, not a solitary sailor gazes over their sides, no call comes from an officer on the bridge. Here and there you see an old sailor on deck as caretaker. His younger companions are all away at the war."

"It is sad to look at those giant hulks with the paint peeling off them. You look at their names and are sorrowful. Over there is a magnificent South American liner, an imposing colossus with her three funnels. There was a time when she proudly sailed down the Elbe to the ocean, her hands playing thousands on shore waving her farewell. Now she lies still as the grave, fastened immovably by her iron chains."

Forests of Lifeless Ships.

"On the other side of the river, at Kuhwärder, lie the serried ranks of the Hamburg American liners, tier on tier of them, their sides scraped and unsightly. We are told that they are all that managed to get home in time. In other great docks and along stretches of quay are the tall, graceful masts of the sailing ships, dry forests of the dead, dead forests without a sign of life."

"But behind the waterways and in many other places a thousand machines and grinding wheels are singing a song of busy preparation. In the great docks and shipbuilding yards there is a mighty hammering piercing the stillness of the harbor. From countless

chimneys smoke and compressed steam issue forth day and night. Secretly, mysteriously, awakening terror, this goes on, contrasting curiously with the deadly stillness of the stream. One's thoughts go forth to the coasts of England and to what will happen there soon as a result of the activities behind those high bulwarks and in remote corners of the town. One looks and listens and remembers that curiosity is out of place here."

Wellington's Height.

From the Manchester Guardian.

To think of the Duke of Wellington as a little man is almost as difficult as to think of Napoleon as a big one. Yet a heated controversy occupies the cor-

respondence columns of the Spectator as to whether there was much to choose in height between the two. The duke was "very little, if at all, taller than Napoleon," says the writer of an article in a late issue, and recently a surprising number of people who knew the duke or lived as children with some one who was his intimate friend hasten to rebut the attack on his inches. The belittling school quote Thomas Carlyle, whose eye for physical characteristics was a keen one, and who described the duke in 1850 as "a shortish, slightish man." But the duke was getting old then, and the stoop that marked him even as a young man may have increased. The people who will not have him less than Napoleon height have better evidence to go on. One of them lived "in constant association

with him" till she was eighteen, at the house of the parents of another he was a "constant visitor." A third frequently saw him riding in the park, and still claim 5 feet 9 inches or more for him. It is a curious thing that while the stature of Julius Caesar, for instance, is not in dispute, we should be in doubt about that of so comparatively recent a hero as Wellington.

Stricken in Street, Dies.

Rebecca Thomas, colored, fifty-five years old, 2021 F street northwest, had a hemorrhage of the lungs yesterday morning while at 21st and G streets northwest. She died while being conveyed to Emergency Hospital, certificate of death from natural causes was given.

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E 1935	(2) ROMANZA (Radames). Calisto Aida, tenor.	E 2025	(20) GRAND CONCERTED FINALE. Part II. Gloria all' Egitto. Soprano, mezzo-soprano, tenor, baritone, bass and chorus.
E 1936	(3) SCENE AND CONCERTED PIECE. Suo del Nilo. Soprano, mezzo-soprano, tenor, baritone, bass and chorus.	E 2026	(21) PRAYER AND CHORUS. O tu che sei d'Osiride. Soprano, mezzo-soprano, tenor, baritone, bass and chorus.
E 1937	(4) ARIA (Aida). Part I. Ritoria Vincitor. Soprano.	E 2027	(22) ROMANCE (Aida). O ciel azzurro. Soprano.
E 1938	(5) CONSECRATION SCENE. Possente, Phtha. Soprano, bass and chorus.	E 2028	(23) DUET (Amonasro and Aida). Part I. Ritornella in foresta. Soprano and baritone.
E 1939	(6) SACRED DANCE OF PRIESTESSES. Grand Milan Band.	E 2029	(24) DUET (Amonasro and Aida). Part II. In armi or si testa il popol nostro. Soprano and baritone.
E 1940	(7) CONCERTED FINALE. Nume Custodi e vendici. Soprano, tenor, bass and chorus.	E 2030	(25) DUET (Amonasro and Aida). Part I. Pur ti rivoglio. Soprano and tenor.
E 1941	(8) SCENE (Amonasro and Chorus). Vieni Sul Crin ti piaccio. Mezzo-soprano and chorus.	E 2031	(26) DUET (Aida and Radames). Part I. Fuggiamo! Soprano and tenor.
E 1942	(9) SCENE AND DUET (Amonasro and Aida). Part I. Fu la sorte dell'armi. Soprano and mezzo-soprano.	E 2032	(27) DUET (Aida and Radames). Part II. Si fuggiamo da questa terra. Soprano and tenor.
E 1943	(10) SCENE AND DUET (Amonasro and Aida). Part II. Ebben qual mormorafronza. Soprano and mezzo-soprano.	E 2033	(28) DUET (Amonasro and Aida). Part III. Si fuggiamo da questa terra. Soprano and tenor.
E 1944	(11) SCENE AND DUET (Amonasro and Aida). Part III. Pidi il tuo nome. Soprano and mezzo-soprano.	E 2034	(29) DUET (Amonasro and Aida). Part IV. Si fuggiamo da questa terra. Soprano and tenor.
E 1945	(12) SCENE AND DUET (Amonasro and Aida). Part IV. Si fuggiamo da questa terra. Soprano and tenor.	E 2035	(30) DUET (Amonasro and Aida). Part V. Si fuggiamo da questa terra. Soprano and tenor.
E 1946	(13) SCENE AND DUET (Amonasro and Aida). Part V. Si fuggiamo da questa terra. Soprano and tenor.	E 2036	(31) JUDGMENT SCENE. Part I. Spirito del Nume. Mezzo-soprano, bass and chorus.
E 1947	(14) SCENE AND DUET (Amonasro and Aida). Part VI. Si fuggiamo da questa terra. Soprano and tenor.	E 2037	(32) JUDGMENT SCENE. Part II. Radames a deciso il suo destino. Soprano and tenor.
E 1948	(15) SCENE AND DUET (Amonasro and Aida). Part VII. Si fuggiamo da questa terra. Soprano and tenor.	E 2038	(33) SECOND SCENE (Radames). Morte, si pura e bella. Tenor.
E 1949	(16) SCENE AND DUET (Amonasro and Aida). Part VIII. Si fuggiamo da questa terra. Soprano and tenor.	E 2039	(34) FINAL DUET (Aida and Radames). O terra addio. Soprano and tenor.

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